

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 182521
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TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, JA

SUBJECT: TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE -- FILTRONA
INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

REFS: (A) STATE 121685; (B) TOKYO 11284; (C) STATE 17481

1. SUMMARY: FILTRONA INTERNATIONAL LIMITED, THE SUBJECT OF
TFC CASE SENT EMBASSY REF C, WOULD LIKE TO SEND JTS 4,000
ADDITIONAL SCS III FILTER SAMPLES TO DEMONSTRATE WRINKLING
NOT A PROBLEM. USDOC WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ASSISTANCE
IN PREPARING JTS FOR SHIPMENT (EARLY AUGUST IF POSSIBLE)
AND IN DETERMINING NAME AND ADDRESS OF JTS OFFICIAL TO
WHICH SAMPLES SHOULD BE SENT. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY REPORTED REF B JTS DID NOT PURCHASE FILTRONA
SCS III FILTERS BECAUSE THEY DID NOT MEET EXACTING JTS
SIZE REQUIREMENTS AND THUS WRINKLED WHEN PROCESSED THROUGH
HIGH SPEED PRODUCTION MACHINERY. EMBASSY SHOULD NOTE IN
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 182521

FUTURE DISCUSSIONS WITH JTS THAT JTS DID NOT PROVIDE
FILTRONA WITH DESIGN OR PERFORMANCE PARAMETERS FOR SCS III
FILTERS PRIOR TO REQUESTING LAST MAY THAT FILTRONA SEND A
SAMPLE SHIPMENT FOR TESTING. THUS, FILTRONA HAD TO CHOOSE
PRODUCTION PARAMETERS BASED ON THEIR OWN BEST JUDGEMENT.
FILTRONA WOULD BE HAPPY TO ADJUST PARAMETERS TO JTS

SPECIFICATIONS IF AND WHEN THEY ARE MADE KNOWN TO FILTRONA. FURTHERMORE, INFORMATION EMBASSY OBTAINED IS SOMEWHAT INCONSISTENT WITH WHAT FILTRONA WAS TOLD AUGUST 1977 BY ITS AGENT, MITSUI, VIZ., (QUOTE) SCS PLUGS, WHICH HAD BEEN SUPPLIED OUT OF RICHMOND (ORDER NO. 11039, 40,000 SCS III FILTERS), INVARIABLY SHOWED A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF WRINKLES ON THE SURFACE PAPER. (JTS) HAS REQUESTED ME (SIC) TO FIND OUT FROM YOU WHETHER WRINKLES ARE LIMITED TO SUPPLY OR ARE NOTICEABLE ON YOUR BULK SUPPLIES ALSO. (END QUOTE). MITSUI INFORMATION IMPLIES THAT WRINKLES WERE NOTICEABLE ON SAMPLE FILTERS AT OUTSET, AND OMITTS REFERENCE TO THEIR BEING WRONG-SIZED OR PROCESSED THROUGH JTS MACHINERY. FILTRONA IS GETTING TWO DIFFERENT STORIES FROM JTS.

3. FILTRONA INTERNATIONAL LTD., WHICH MARKETS THE SCS III FILTER, QUERIED AMERICAN FILTRONA (RICHMOND, VIRGINIA), THE MANUFACTURER, ON WRINKLES AND WAS ASSURED THAT THIS WAS NOT A PROBLEM ON BULK SUPPLIES. BILLIONS OF FILTRONA SCS III FILTERS ARE PROCESSED SUCCESSFULLY BY R.J. REYNOLDS (VANTAGE) AND OTHERS OUTSIDE THE U.S.

4. TO DEMONSTRATE THAT WRINKLING IS NOT A PROBLEM FOR THE SCS III FILTER, FILTRONA WOULD LIKE TO SEND 4,000 ADDITIONAL SAMPLES DIRECTLY TO JTS. SAMPLES WILL CARRY FILTRONA REFERENCE NO. R-6792; FILTERS WILL HAVE A UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 182521

CIRCUMFERENCE OF 24.8MM, LENGTH OF 120MM; AND EACH 120MM FILTER ROD WILL BE CUT INTO SIX SEGMENTS OF 20MM EACH DURING THE ATTACHMENT PROCEDURE. THE 20MM TIP PRESSURE DROP (PD) ON THE SCS SAMPLES FILTRONA IS PRODUCING FOR JTS ARE TARGETED TO AN AVERAGE PD OF 2.6 INCHES NEW FLOW RATE AS MEASURED ON THE FILTRONA PRESSURE DROP TESTER. THESE PARAMETERS ARE BASED ON FILTRONA'S OWN JUDGEMENT AND COULD BE ALTERED TO JTS SPECIFIC NEEDS.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: USDOC WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN FINDING OUT WHO AT JTS IS CONDUCTING RESEARCH ON SCS FILTERS AND WHETHER THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO RECEIVE A NEW DIRECT SHIPMENT. IF SO, REQUEST EMBASSY SUPPLY NAME AND ADDRESS AT JTS TO WHICH SHIPMENT SHOULD BE SENT. SAMPLE WILL BE READY BY EARLY AUGUST. PLEASE ADVISE. CHRISTOPHER

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